

**MIDWEST  
MANUFACTURING/  
NORTH FARM**

**IOWA**

**EPA ID# IAD069625655**

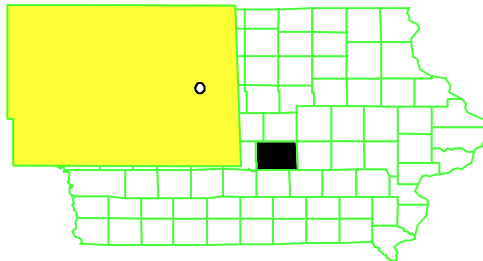
**EPA Region 7**

**City: 2 miles north of Kellogg**

**County: Jasper County**

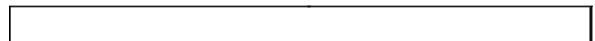
**Other Names: North Farm**

**Smith-Jones**



## **SITE DESCRIPTION**

The Midwest Manufacturing/North Farm site consists of two areas: North Farm, which is an unlined disposal cell located 2 miles from the plant; and Midwest Manufacturing, which is the plant facility. The two areas were combined into the same site because they contain the same types of wastes and affect the same population. From 1973 to 1981, under Smith-Jones ownership, the plant was engaged in electroplating special-order stamped metal pieces, a process that involved using various heavy metals, such as nickel, zinc, and cadmium. Prior to a wastewater treatment plant being brought on line in 1977, the electroplating waste from the plant was discharged directly into the North Skunk River. From 1977 to 1978, the sludge produced by this process was disposed of in an unlined cell at the North Farm area. From 1979 to 1981, trenches at the Midwest Manufacturing area near the plant received the sludge produced by the treatment process. In 1982, the EPA collected sludge samples from the disposal trenches at both areas. Cadmium was the only metal which was found to be present in the soils above naturally-occurring levels. No elevated metals were present in soil samples taken from the North Skunk River downgradient from the plant. A groundwater sample collected from Well #1 was found to contain levels of zinc less than the proposed level for lifetime exposure. During the EPA's 1987 site visit, a man-made drainage ditch was discovered to the west of the disposal trench at the plant. The sediments in this ditch were covered with a black, oily substance that had a petroleum odor. Stressed vegetation and an oily substance floating on top of the water were observed in a marshy area located on the western end of the plant property. In a 1989 site visit, it was noted that the drainage ditch had been covered and a plastic drain pipe had been placed in bottom of the ditch. The plant currently manufactures high-speed flywheel ring gears and assemblies for automobiles. Approximately 700 people depend on wells located within 3 miles of the site for their drinking water supply.



### Site Responsibility:

This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible parties' actions.

### NPL LISTING HISTORY

**Proposed Date:** 09/05/85

**Final Date:** 06/10/86

**Deleted Date:**

## THREATS AND CONTAMINANTS

**Description:** During sampling in 1982, the Midwest Plant city well #1 showed elevated levels of zinc from the former waste disposal activities. Groundwater samples from plant site monitoring wells found elevated levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) such as vinyl chloride, trichloroethylene, and dichloroethylene and the heavy metals cadmium and nickel. Surface soils at both areas contain elevated levels of heavy metals. Adverse health effects could result from ingesting vegetables grown on contaminated soils or watered with contaminated groundwater. Ingesting contaminated groundwater may pose a health risk to area residents.

## CLEANUP APPROACH

### Response Action Status

Midwest Manufacturing Area: In 1990, the EPA concluded an investigation into the nature and extent of contamination in the area. The final cleanup remedy, selected in 1991, included installing a groundwater extraction and treatment system and capping of the plant site disposal trench. The EPA conducted a pump test in preparation for the cleanup design and determined that the aquifer was less permeable than previous data indicated, which lengthens the cleanup time and increases site cleanup costs. Subsequently in 1993, the EPA amended the remedy to include deed restrictions, installing groundwater monitoring wells and perimeter fencing, and performing regular groundwater sampling of both monitoring wells and supply wells located within a 1-mile radius of the plant site. Design of the amended remedy was completed in early 1995. In 1995, potentially responsible parties installed one groundwater monitoring well. Deed restrictions have been placed on the property. Data from quarterly monitoring of selected monitoring and city supply wells are used to evaluate the protectiveness of the remedy. In 1998, EPA reduced the sampling frequency from quarterly to semi-annually for the selected site monitoring wells. EPA eliminated the need for monitoring the City supply wells.

North Farm Area: In 1988, the EPA concluded a study into the nature and extent of contamination of the area. The 1988 remedy included removal of soils containing cadmium above the concentration of 13 mg/kg. In 1993, the EPA re-evaluated risk data and determined that the

site, in its present conditions, poses no current risk to human health and the environment. Future risks can be prevented by using institutional controls that prohibit certain future land use, such as vegetable gardening, and prevent the installation of water supply wells. EPA amended the remedy to include deed restrictions and groundwater monitoring of the three existing monitoring wells. Design of the cleanup was completed in mid-1995. Cleanup activities began in 1995 with deed restrictions placed on the property. Groundwater monitoring began in December 1995. In 1998, EPA terminated all future monitoring requirements based upon the analytical results. The PRPs abandoned these wells according to IDNR's procedures in the fall of 1998.

**Description:**

**Site Facts:** In December 1994, EPA and Smith and Jones, Inc., signed a Consent Decree in which the company agreed to conduct all future site response activities.

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS



The EPA determined that institutional controls and the fencing provide an effective barrier to exposure to site contaminants during remediation.

## SITE REPOSITORY



Superfund Records Center  
901 N. 5th St.  
Kansas City, KS 66101  
Mail Stop SUPR  
(913)551-4038

## REGIONAL CONTACTS

**SITE MANAGER:**

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

Diane Easley  
easily.diane@epa.gov  
(913) 551-7797

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

**COORDINATOR:**

**PHONE NUMBER:**

Diane Huffman  
(913) 551-7544

**PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER:**

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

**STATE CONTACT:**

**PHONE NUMBER:**

Bob Drustrup  
(515) 281-8900

## MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

**STATE:**

**PACIFIC ISLAND(S):**

**CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:**

**EPA ORGANIZATION:**

07A1  
03  
SFD-SUPR/IANE

## MODIFICATIONS